



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATURAL GAS RATES TO DROP FOR ATMOS ENERGY—WEST AREA CUSTOMERS

JEFFERSON CITY—To reflect estimated changes in the wholesale cost of natural gas for the upcoming summer season, West Area customers of Atmos Energy Corporation **(the Butler and Greeley Districts)** will see natural gas rates drop under a filing which will take effect on May 1, 2007.

A residential customer currently pays approximately \$0.87 per Ccf (per 100 cubic feet of gas). Under this filing, the rate will drop to approximately \$0.72 per Ccf, a decrease of approximately \$0.15 per Ccf.

Approximately 65% to 70% of a customer's natural gas bill reflects the cost of natural gas from wholesale suppliers. The wholesale cost of natural gas (the cost your local natural gas company must pay to its suppliers for natural gas) is not regulated by the Missouri Public Service Commission. The wellhead cost of natural gas is unregulated and is primarily driven by supply, demand and the weather. The Missouri Public Service Commission does conduct an annual regulatory review to ensure that regulated natural gas companies make prudent decisions in securing natural gas supplies for their customers.

Atmos Energy Corporation serves approximately 4,020 natural gas customers in its West Area (Bates, Cass, Henry and St. Clair Counties).